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FIGURE SKATERS CONTINUE TO EXCEL
An early morning of skating features more USFS talent

WILLIAMSTOWN, MA-After rising before the sun and making the trek through newly fallen snow, athletes prepared for day two of the United States Figure Skating (USFS) competition. The second day of the 2007 Bay State Winter Games started off with Melissa Lee (Andover) accepting a gold medal by placing first in the Pre-Juvenile Girls Group 1. Leading the pack in the Pre-Juvenile Girls Group 2 was Desiree Carpenter (Berkley). Other noteworthy performances were by Karen Franko (Canton) who came out on top for the Adult Bronze Ladies Free Skate division, and Joanne Markow (Natick) who shined as the first place winner for Adult Silver Ladies Free Skate. Millbury residents took first and second place in the Adult Gold Ladies Free Skate category with Cynthia Jacobson placing first and Jennifer Stewart taking home the silver. In the Pre-Preliminary Girls Free Skate competition, Lily Barrett (Norwell) won the gold for Group 1, and Sarah Mitty (Wayland) was the winner for Group 2.

More Bay State Games New Balance Sportsmanship Initiative Awards were given out today to recognize athletes for exemplary sportsmanship at Bay State Games events. Craig and Barbara Burley (Ashland) were both recipients of the award for their on going support of all athletes. Craig and Barbara both competed in the first day of the ISI competition, but returned to the rink today to show their overwhelming support for their fellow athletes.

Clinching the Gold medal for the Intermediate Ladies, and earning a spot in tonight's Bay State Skate Figure Skating Show, was Ashley Rose Ardizoni (Westfield). Joining Ashley in the show will be Kiara Sonoda (Chicopee), who received gold for the Novice Ladies, Sportsmanship Award recipient Caroline Henderson (Mansfield) who came in first for the Junior Ladies, and Lindsey Fenton (Amherst) who was victorious among the Senior Ladies.

USFS Figure Skating will return for its final day of competition Sunday, February 4 between 8:00am-12:00pm at Williams College. For more information regarding the 2007 Bay State Winter Games including results, please visit www.baystategames.org/winter.

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